

THE
TRUE COPY
OF A
PETITION

Promoted in the
ARMY,

And already presented to His Excellency

The Lord General,

BY

The Officers and Soldiers of the Re-
giment under the Command of

Commissary General FRETON.

London, Printed in the year 1648.

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BY

The Officers and Soldiers of the Regiment under the Command of

Commissioner General FRETTON

London, Printed in the Year 1648.



To his Excellency the Lord *Fairfax*
our ever honored General;

*The humble Petition of the Officers and
Soldiers of the Regiment of Commissary
General Ireton;*

SHewETH,

That although we are as earnestly desirous
of a safe and well-grounded Peace, and
that a final end were put to all the troubles
and miseries of the Commonwealth, as any sort
of men whatsoever; Yet considering

1. That there is no Justice done against, or tryal
of the Contrivers or Abettors of the Rebellion in
Wales, Kent; that of Holland, Buckingham, and
their Accessories; or of the Confederates with
the Apostate Scots; and indeed little Justice by

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the Parliament done upon any Offenders of that kind. By which we have too much cause to fear, that there may be a party in the Parliament abetting and corresponding with (if not guilty of) the same Designes.

II. That notwithstanding the King hath betrayed the trust reposed in him, and raised War against this Nation to enslave it, violating his Oaths and trampling under-foot our Laws, (then which no Engagement now taken can be more binding:) notwithstanding he is guilty of all the blood-shed in these intestine Wars, as may appear not only by the Declaration of the Parliament of England, and that of Scotland, but even by his own confession in his late agreeing to the Parliaments first Proposition: being also a person who was so far concluded incapable to govern, that the Parliament voted no Address should be made to him. There is yet a prevalent party of his Creatures, who in Parliament, and elsewhere, act his Design, and endeavor to re-inthronize him, and are (as we conceive) the Authors of our present Distractions.

III. That through the evil Designs and Practices of the forelaid Party, the intolerable burthen of Free Quarter is continued upon the people,

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torted from them, in the name of pay for the Army: By which means we are not only rendered odious to others, but a burthen to our selves, not being able to cloth our selves, shoe our horse or free our Arms.

We therefore cannot think any thing can safely be done in order to peace, until some speedy and effectual course be taken, which we humbly desire your Excellency will be pleased to your utmost power, to endeavor,

1. *That there may be a strict scrutiny, for the more full discovery of such persons as were contrivers or encouragers of the rebellions aforesaid, and that Justice speedily be executed on them according to the late Orders of Parliament.*

2. *That impartial and speedy Justice may be done upon all criminal persons, and especially upon such as have or shall endeavor to obstruct the course thereof,*

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we betrayed their Trust, or bin Authors
 shedding that innocent blood, which calls
 Heaven for Vengeance, that so we may
 be at peace with God.

3. That the same fault may have the
 same punishment, in the person of King
 or Lord, as in the person of the poorest
 Commoner.

4. That all such may be proceeded against
 Traytors, who act or speak in the Kings
 behalf, till he shall be acquitted of the guilt
 of shedding innocent blood.

5. That the Army may speedily have
 their pay, or a present course be taken a-
 gainst those who unjustly withhold it; and
 that they may have the Arrears due since
 January 15. before they be ordered to pay
 Quarters, and effectual provision made for
 the payment of former Arrears.

6. That the intolerable oppression of
 free Quarter be immediately taken off, and

(8)
that for the time to come, whilst there is necessity for an Army, there may be Assignations given to each Regiment, Troop and Company, which may be constant, during the Establishments of the Army, that the money may not pass from hand to hand till it is half-imbezelled, but be paid immediately from the Countries to the Soldier, that so all free Quarter for ever voided, it may return from the Soldier to the Countryman again.

And now fearing, lest the inveterate malice of our Adversaries should asperse us with a design to destroy Magistracy and propriety; we cannot but declare, that we shall constantly endeavor to defend them both with our lives and fortune and in expectation of your Excellencies favour in the Premises, we shall ever pray, &c.

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The great Necessities and pressing Grievances of the Soldiery have inforced us to make these our Addresses (by way of Petition) to the Lord General for the redress of them; and knowing that our present undertakings will ere long be presented to publick view, the Officers in the Regiment, under the command of Commissary General Ireton, by whose appointment this is already presented to his Excellency the Lord General, have (to prevent any prejudice, which otherwise might accrue to our present proceedings, by any false or mistaken Copy, surreptitiously gotten and published in their name) desired me to print the same, with the name of an Officer of each Troop subscribed, in the behalf, and at the request of the Officers and Soldiers of the said Regiment, that so the Reader may be the better satisfied.

Anthony Morgan.

Iervice Jefferis.

H. C.

Sampson Tongood.

William Rauce.

James Gennings.

Henry Clare, junior.

F I N I S.